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Belated Intelligence

To the Editor: In The Louisville Times June 19 John Scali wrote an article concerning the Central Intelligence Agency. According to Scali, a newsmen checking into C.I.A.'s record found surprisingly little criticism. There are, however, flames and spurts of criticism and they are worthwhile looking into since the director of C.I.A., Allen Dulles, is a direct adviser to the President.

Intelligence sections of various branches of the armed services had the information concerning what Britain and France were going to do in the Suez crisis but, due to jealousy among the armed services, each branch sat on the information that it did have. If the C.I.A. had been on the ball, however, it could have got that information. This was the umpteen-billion dollar blunder of Allen Dulles and the C.I.A.

The budget of C.I.A. is kept secret but, comparing it to other agencies, one could reason that it is tremendous. Are we getting our money's worth out of it? Allen Dulles is undoubtedly a good man in government, but is he the right man to head the C.I.A.? According to Donal E. J. MacNamara, dean of the New York Institute of Criminology, Allen Dulles was born with a silver spoon in his mouth and is a school-professor type of person. He in turn goes out and hires other school-professor types of people. According to the article by Scali, Dulles, a Princeton grad, has three other Princeton graduates and graduates from eight other closely allied Eastern schools holding down most of the top 20 positions in the department. Do the Eastern states have a monopoly on brains?

Dean MacNamara, a former Air Force intelligence officer, has suggested that the agency should be headed by more experienced men who can go into bars and organizations and worm their way into the confidence of others. According to him, men like J. Edgar Hoover should be consulted on who should be head of C.I.A. However, according to a former employee of C.I.A., Hoover was consulted and declined to say who was the best man to head the agency.

Some of the above information appeared in an article by Doris Fleeson July 16 in The Louisville Times. According to her, Senators present at certain White House conferences stated that the Central Intelligence Agency was caught absolutely flat-footed by events in Iraq and that the Senators were much more critical of this than of past C.I.A. failures respecting Russia.

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